

Employee Post-Travel Disclosure of Travel Expenses

Date/Time Stamp:
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC RECORDS

Post-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete this form within **30 days** of returning from travel. Submit all forms to the **Office of Public Records in 232 Hart Building**.

In compliance with Rule 35.2(a) and (c), I make the following disclosures with respect to travel expenses that have been or will be reimbursed/paid for me. I also certify that I have attached:

- ☒ The **original** *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* (Form RE-1), **AND**
 - ☒ A **copy** of the *Private Sponsor Travel Certification Form* with all attachments (itinerary, invitee list, etc.)
- AEIF - American Israel Education Foundation

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): _____

August 17, 2019 - August 23, 2019

Travel date(s): _____

N/A

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

IF THE COST OF LODGING **DID NOT INCREASE** DUE TO THE ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD, ONLY INCLUDE LODGING COSTS IN EMPLOYEE EXPENSES. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Expenses for Employee:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate	\$4,809.50	\$1,678.18	\$751.82	\$2,942.76 See additional page
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Expenses for Accompanying Spouse or Dependent Child (if applicable):

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (Amount & Description)
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimate				
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amount				

Provide a description of all meetings and events attended. See Senate Rule 35.2(c)(6). (Attach additional pages if necessary.): See additional pages

9/23/19
(Date)

Joshua Kelley
(Printed name of traveler)

(Signature of traveler)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING MEMBER/OFFICER:

I have made a determination that the expenses set out above in connections with travel described in the *Employee Pre-Travel Authorization* form, are necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses as defined in Rule 35.

9/23/19
(Date)

(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

EMPLOYEE PRE-TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Pre-Travel Filing Instructions: Complete and submit this form at least 30 days prior to the travel departure date to the **Select Committee on Ethics** in SH-220. Incomplete and late travel submissions will **not** be considered or approved. This form **must** be typed and is available as a fillable PDF on the Committee's website at ethics.senate.gov. Retain a copy of your entire pre-travel submission for your required post-travel disclosure.

Name of Traveler: Joshua Kelley

Employing Office/Committee: Senator Mike Braun

Private Sponsor(s) (list all): American Israel Education Foundation (AEIF)

Travel date(s): August 17 - 23, 2019

*Note: If you plan to extend the trip for any reason you **must** notify the Committee.*

Destination(s): Jerusalem, and Tiberias, Israel

Explain how this trip is specifically connected to the traveler's official or representational duties:

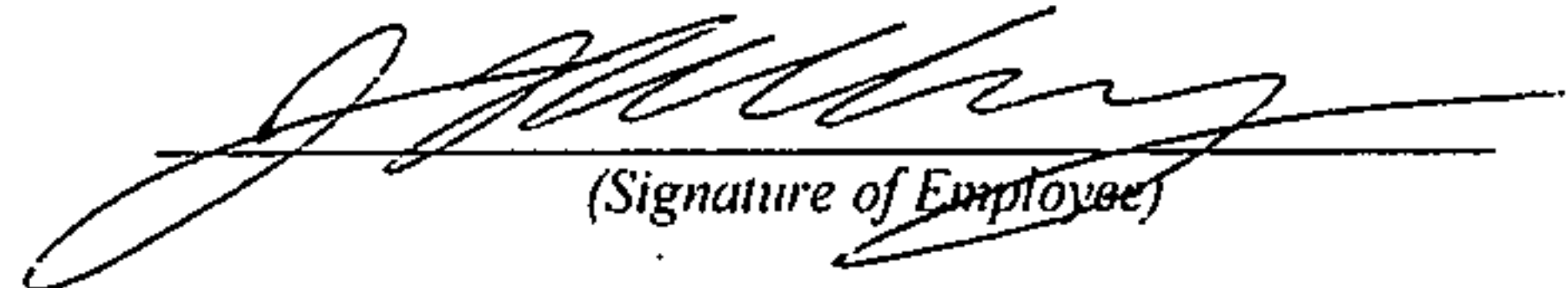
The traveler's duty as the Chief of Staff is to advise the Senator on various legislative matters, including foreign affairs and the US-Israeli relationship. This trip will allow the traveler to gain a better understanding of the US-Israeli relationship by seeing first hand how the US-Israeli relationship impacts the region.

Name of accompanying family member (if any): _____

Relationship to Employee: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge:

7/23/2019
(Date)


(Signature of Employee)

TO BE COMPLETED BY SUPERVISING SENATOR/OFFICER (President of the Senate, Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms, Secretary for the Majority, Secretary for the Minority, and Chaplain):

I, Senator Mike Braun hereby authorize Joshua Kelley
(Print Senator's/Officer's Name) (Print Traveler's Name)

an employee under my direct supervision, to accept payment or reimbursement for necessary transportation, lodging, and related expenses for travel to the event described above. I have determined that this travel is in connection with his or her duties as a Senate employee or an officeholder, and will not create the appearance that he or she is using public office for private gain.

I have also determined that the attendance of the employee's spouse or child is appropriate to assist in the representation of the Senate. (signify "yes" by checking box) ☐

7/23/19
(Date)


(Signature of Supervising Senator/Officer)

AEIF Israel Trip - August 17, 2019 – August 23, 2019

Joshua Kelley

Chief of Staff for Senator Mike Braun

Trip Costs

Total Costs :

Transportation: \$4,809.50

Lodging: \$1,678.18

Meals: \$751.82

Other: \$2,942.76

Breakdown of "other" expenses:

Security: \$1,058.28 per person

Speaker Fees: \$464.41 per person

Tour Guide: \$426.16 per person

Hotels for contract staff: \$299.09 per person

Meals for contract staff and speakers: \$290.74 per person

Transportation for contract staff and speakers: \$133.78 per person

Room Rentals: \$130.85 per person

Photography: \$49.13 per person

Airport Assistance: \$48.25 per person

Other: \$19.86 per person

Entrance Fees: \$11.92 per person

Tips: \$10.29 per person

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251 H STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001
TEL 202.639.5180

June 3, 2019

Josh Kelley
374 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Josh,

On behalf of the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF), we would like to invite you to participate in an educational seminar in Israel, August 17-23, 2019. The trip will depart Saturday afternoon, August 17; and return to the U.S. on Friday morning, August 23.

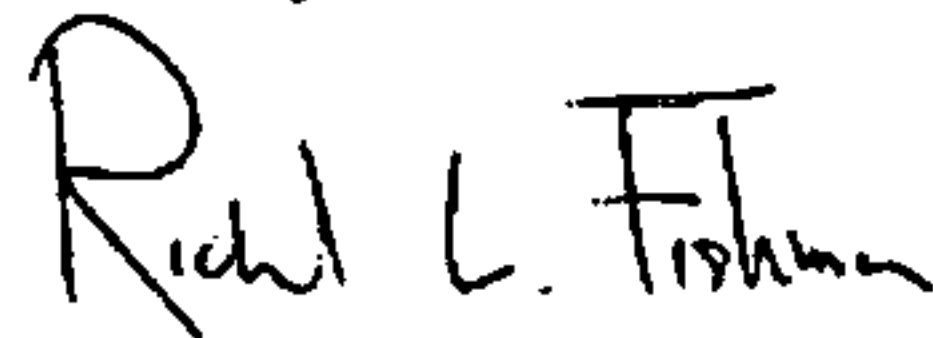
This seminar will delve into some of the most difficult issues facing Israel and the region. Israeli leaders from across the political spectrum, along with Palestinian leaders, will explore the peace negotiations and the obstacles to peace, the myriad of security threats facing the region, and the strategic relationship between the United States and Israel.

Participants will hear a wide array of viewpoints, including discussions with: members of the Israeli Knesset and the Palestinian Authority; U.S. government officials; military leaders; heads of non-governmental organizations; and prominent academics and journalists. The program will also include visits to historic and religious sites in Jerusalem and the Galilee.

All trip-related expenses will be paid for by AIEF, and all aspects of the trip will be in full conformity with Senate Ethics rules. AIEF will provide additional information to assure your compliance with ethics rules.

We hope you will be able to join us on what promises to be a rich, insightful and educational trip. To confirm your participation, please complete the confirmation form, and return to jperetz@aiefdn.org. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Peretz at (202) 639-5192.

Sincerely,



Richard Fishman
Executive Director, AIE

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The Senate Member, officer, or employee MUST also provide a copy of this form, along with the appropriate travel authorization and reimbursement form, to the Office of Public Records (OPR), Room 232 of the Hart Building, within thirty (30) days after the travel is completed.

- Private Sponsor Certification - Page 1 of 4

9. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 6(B)

I certify that if the sponsor or sponsors retain or employ one or more registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal, one of the following scenarios applies:

- ☐ (A) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and one overnight stay) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip.

- OR -

- ☐ (B) The trip is for attendance or participation in a one-day event (exclusive of travel time and two overnight stays) and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *on any segment* of the trip (see questions 6 and 10).

-OR-

- ☐ (C) The trip is being sponsored only by an organization or organizations designated under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and no registered lobbyists or agents of a foreign principal will accompany the Member, officer, or employee *at any point* throughout the trip.

10. USE ONLY IF YOU CHECKED QUESTION 9(B)

If the trip includes two overnight stays, please explain why the second night is practically required for Senate invitees to participate in the travel:

11. ☒ An itinerary for the trip is attached to this form. I *certify* that the attached itinerary is a detailed (hour-by-hour), complete, and final itinerary for the trip.

- 12. Briefly describe the role of each sponsor in organizing and conducting the trip:**

AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting, coordinating, executing, and funding all aspects of this trip.

13. Briefly describe the stated mission of each sponsor and how the purpose of the trip relates to that mission:

AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the mission of providing educational programming about the U.S.-relationship. The delegation will have the opportunity to meet with a diverse group of Israelis and Palestinians, and see first-hand the outcome of U.S.-Israel strategic cooperation in the region.

- 14. Briefly describe each sponsor's prior history of sponsoring congressional trips:**

Please see addendum

15. Briefly describe the educational activities performed by each sponsor (other than sponsoring congressional trips):

Please see addendum

16. Total Expenses for Each Participant:

	Transportation Expenses	Lodging Expenses	Meal Expenses	Other Expenses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith estimate	\$5,092.71	\$1,258	\$566	\$4,198
<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts	air = \$4,465.44 bus = \$509.09 Syrian border transport = \$90.91 taxis = \$27.27 per person	JLM = \$972 TIB = \$286 per person	JLM = \$420 TIB = \$146 per person	Please see breakdown attached per person

17. State whether a) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation or b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *specifically with regard* to congressional participation:

b) the trip involves an event that is arranged or organized specifically with regard to congressional participation.

18. Reason for selecting the location of the event or trip

During the trip, participants will visit many cities and regions in Israel, to explore the strategic nature of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

19. Name and location of hotel or other lodging facility:

King David (King David Street 23, Jerusalem); Scots (Gdud Barak Street 1, Tiberias)

20. Reason(s) for selecting hotel or other lodging facility:

We chose these hotels due to their location and affordability.

21. Describe how the daily expenses for lodging, meals, and other expenses provided to trip participants compares to the maximum per diem rates for official Federal Government travel:

Please see addendum

22. Describe the type and class of transportation being provided. Indicate whether coach, business-class or first class transportation will be provided. If first-class fare is being provided, please explain why first-class travel is necessary:

r/t Indianapolis-Newark coach class on a commercial airline; r/t Newark-Tel Aviv business class on a commercial airline; charter bus and taxis on the ground in Israel

23. ☒ I represent that the travel expenses that will be paid for or reimbursed to Senate invitees do not include expenditures for recreational activities, alcohol, or entertainment (other than entertainment provided to all attendees as an integral part of the event, as permissible under Senate Rule 35).

24. List any entertainment that will be provided to, paid for, or reimbursed to Senate invitees and explain why the entertainment is an integral part of the event:

none

25. I hereby *certify* that the information contained herein is true, complete and correct. (For trips involving more than one sponsor, you *must* include a completed signature page for each additional sponsor):

Signature of Travel Sponsor: 

Name and Title: Rachel Hirsch, In-House Counsel

Name of Organization: American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address: 251 H Street NW, Washington DC 20001

Telephone Number: (202) 639-5248

Fax Number: n/a

E-mail Address: rhirsch@aiefdn.org

00000000005770

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senators Mike Braun (R-IN) and Rick Scott (R-FL)
August 17 – 23, 2019**

Senate Invitees

1. The Honorable Mike Braun
2. The Honorable Rick Scott
3. Joshua Kelley, Chief of Staff, Sen. Mike Braun
4. Jackie Schutz Zeckman, Chief of Staff, Sen. Rick Scott

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2. Description of the Trip

The seminar will consist of discussions with Israeli government officials, military officers, Members of the Knesset, Palestinian representatives and U.S. officials, as well as site surveys of the northern border with Lebanon and Syria, the southern border with the Gaza Strip, and the security fence. The seminar also aims to provide the political, historic, and religious context to the current conflicts and issues facing Israel and the region. It will explore the connection the three monotheistic religions have with the land and the influence this connection has on today's struggles. In addition to formal meetings and briefings, the trip provides experiential opportunities to help better understand the geographical complications, the security implications, and the historic root causes of the current conflicts.

Founded in 1990, the American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF) funds Israel Seminars for members of Congress, Capitol Hill staffers, students, political consultants, as well as Christian, Latino, African American, Progressive, and Veteran leaders. These trips to Israel are among the most critical programs AIEF supports on behalf of the U.S.-Israel relationship. These educational seminars allow policy makers to understand the complex historical, religious and geographic context of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Participants meet with Israeli government officials, military officers, members of the Knesset, U.S. government officials, Palestinian Authority officials and leading academics and journalists. For many of the participants, who make important decisions impacting Israel and the Middle East, these trips are their first, and sometimes, only exposure to the country. The most recent Senate trip was for Congressional staff in May 2019.

15. Other Educational Activities
AIEF grants support innovative and award-winning programming that educates a wide array of participants, including college students, members of Congress and their staff, and political professionals.

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
Educational Seminar in Israel
Senators Mike Braun (R-IN) and Rick Scott (R-FL)
August 17 – 23, 2019

Itinerary

Saturday, August 17, 2019

afternoon	Depart from various airports
evening	Arrive Newark
10:50 PM	Depart Newark

Sunday, August 18, 2019

4:20 PM	Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport Transfer to Jerusalem
6:30 PM	Check in to the King David Hotel
7:15 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30-8:00 PM	<i>Setting the Stage</i> Welcome and Orientation - at Touro
8:00-10:00 PM	<i>State of the Nation</i> David Horowitz, Editor, Times of Israel - at Touro

State of the Nation

David Horovitz is the founding editor of *Times of Israel*, the leading current affairs website in Israel. Mr. Horovitz is will provide staff with a synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli voters.

10:00-10:30 PM	<i>Shalom Jerusalem</i> Introduction to the history of the city A brief walking survey
10:30 PM	Overnight at the King David Hotel, Jerusalem

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The Jezreel Valley

Our tour guide will spend an hour during the drive from Israel's center to the north to provide the delegation a briefing on the Jezreel Valley and the Upper Galilee and the challenges facing these regions of the country.

For thousands of years, the Jezreel Valley served as a land bridge linking Africa, Asia and Europe, and serving as a thoroughfare for ancient caravans and, more frequently, armies. In modern times, during World War I, for example, the British and Turkish forces fought a number of pitched battles in the valley. In 1948, following Israel's establishment, the combined forces of Iraq and Jordan attempted unsuccessfully to capture the valley in order to split the just-born Israel into two parts. In the early 20th century, after decades of neglect, Jewish pioneers drained the swamps in the valley, transforming this region into Israel's "breadbasket" known for wheat, cotton, sunflowers and fish ponds. The Jezreel Valley is also home to historical and biblical sites including Tel Megiddo and Nazareth.

Today it is an important symbol of Israel's complex and diverse political reality. The Jezreel Valley, together with the areas of the Lower and Upper Galilee, is home to the majority of Israel's Arab citizens. A survey of this area provides an opportunity to discuss and learn about Israel's Arab citizens – 20 percent of the population – each of which has full democratic, social and welfare rights, the right to vote and serve in the Knesset, and the opportunity to serve on Israel's Supreme Court. These issues are not widely known and this segment gives trip participants the opportunity to understand Israel's relationship with its largest minority group.

Upper Galilee

The Upper Galilee is home to the largest variety of ethnic communities in Israel including Druze, Circassian, Arab Muslim and Arab Christian villages. The Galilee is also home to ancient Jewish and Christian holy sites that provide additional historical and political context to regional tensions. Just as in the case of the Jezreel Valley, the area illustrates the role of minorities in Israel.

At the same time, the Upper Galilee is home to some of the most prominent industrial hubs. Best known among them is the Tefen Industrial area, home to numerous enterprises established by the region's residents – Jewish and Arab. In 2006, Upper Galilee's ISCAR Metal Working Company was purchased for \$5 billion by Warren Buffet's conglomerate holding company. Since then, a number of American investors have become partners in some of the region's hi-tech and bio-tech companies.

While time does not permit for sites visits, a drive through the region allows for expanding on the importance of the area in the context of the U.S.–Israel relationship.

2:15-3:15 PM

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah
On Israel's border with Lebanon and visit to Hizaballah Tunnel
Briefing with Major Tomer Gilad
-at Zarit

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Lebanon and Hizballah

During this briefing, the participants will hear about the threats to Israel emanating from the Northern border with Syria. They will also visit one of six tunnels that Hizballah has built underneath Israel, some as deep as 23 stories.

3:15 PM	Depart
4:30-5:30 PM	<i>Visit to the Jordan River</i> -at Yardenit
6:00 PM	Check-in to the Scots Hotel, Tiberias
7:30 PM	Depart
7:45-9:45 PM	<i>Reflections on the Week</i> Dinner at Decks

Dinner and Discussion

We will use this dinner as an opportunity to discuss the speakers and topics we have been exposed to thus far. We have found giving our participants an opportunity to discuss the topics and perspectives presented to them assists them in their ability to more fully understand the complexities Israel faces.

9:45 PM	Overnight at the Scots Hotel, Tiberias
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Tuesday, August 20, 2019

8:00 AM	Breakfast on your own -at the hotel
8:30 AM	Depart
9:00-11:00 AM	<i>Historical Significance of the Sea of Galilee</i> Survey of historical and religious sites around the Sea of Galilee <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the MountSt. Peter's ChurchCapernaum – Jesus' Village

Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee

As part of the seminar's focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided survey and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic surveys in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious

narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

11:00 AM Depart for the Golan Heights

12:00-1:00 PM *Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria*
Strategic survey of Israel's border with Syria
With Cpt. Ilan Shulman
- at Ein Zivan

Israel's Northern Border Concerns: Syria

Captain (Res.) Ilan Shulman, a disabled IDF veteran, divides his time guiding geopolitical tours on the Galilee and Golan Heights, lecturing to students, giving geo-political briefings for delegations through various Israeli foreign ministry programs, and fulfilling his IDF reserve duties in the Northern Command's intelligence unit. Shulman was raised in Kibbutz Merom Golan near Israel's border with Syria, where one of his favorite jobs was herding the kibbutz cattle. Shulman served in the IDF's paratrooper's unit, rising to the position of company commander. He holds a BA in Israel and Middle East Studies. During this session he will take participants to the border between Israel and Syria and provide an overview of the Syrian civil war.

1:00 PM Depart

1:15-2:30 PM *Ethics in the IDF*
Lunch with IDF Soldiers
-at HaBokrim

Ethics in the IDF

Ruach Tzahal (Literally, 'Spirit of the IDF') represents the values of the Israel Defense Forces and stands as the foundation for the responsibilities of Israel's army. This overarching ethical code, and the guidelines and operation resulting from it, shape the mode of action applied by all IDF soldiers and units, both in peace and at war. During basic training, every IDF soldier studies and analyzes the code of ethics together with their commanders. It is customary for a framed copy of the code to be hung in every commander's office as a constant reminder of the IDF's values and guidelines. During lunch, participants will be joined by soldiers in the Northern Command, who will discuss the challenges of serving in a region overtaken by the Syrian civil war.

2:30 PM Depart for Jerusalem

2:30-3:30 PM *En Route Briefing:*
Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

Jordan: Relations with Israel, and the Growing Refugee Crisis

The tour guide will spend approximately an hour during the drive through the Jordan Valley to

explore several topics related to Israel's eastern neighbor: specifically, Israeli-Jordanian strategic cooperation, as well as the implications of the Syrian civil war on the Kingdom.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan became the second Arab country after Egypt to recognize Israel when it signed a comprehensive peace agreement that ended nearly five decades of warfare. Shepherded by United States President Bill Clinton, the accord signed on Oct. 6, 1994, marked the onset of a new era of economic, cultural, and political dialogue and cooperation between the two countries.

In recent years, the two countries have worked together to combat the increased threat from terrorism by coordinating their security efforts and preventing infiltrations across their shared border. Today, Jordan hosts over 1.4 million Syrian refugees fleeing civil war. Following our discussion with Israeli soldiers patrolling the Syrian border, our guide will address how the influx of Syrian refugees and the threats in the region impact Jordan internally; as well as relations and further potential for strategic partnership between Jordan, the United States, and Israel.

5:30 PM Check-in to the King David Hotel

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30-9:30 PM *U.S.-Israel Relations*
Dinner with U.S. Ambassador David Friedman and Mrs. Tammy Friedman
-at the Ambassador's residence

U.S.-Israel relations

Every member delegation has the opportunity to meet with the U.S. Ambassador to Israel. Ambassador David Friedman was the first bilateral ambassador to be confirmed in the Trump Administration. Prior to his appointment as ambassador, Mr. Friedman was a nationally top-ranked attorney, and a founding partner of Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman of New York, New York. He frequently represented high-profile clients in large and significant cases and has published articles and lectured on novel and complex areas of law. Ambassador Friedman has played a lead role in negotiating multilateral disputes in some of the nation's most complex business and financial restructurings. Well known for his excellent public speaking, negotiating and interpersonal skills, he has been active for decades in U.S. policy as it relates to Israel and the Middle East. He speaks and reads Hebrew and has traveled to Israel extensively. Ambassador Friedman earned a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

9:45 PM Overnight at the King David Hotel

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

7:45 AM Breakfast is served
-at the hotel, Olive room

8:00-9:00 AM *Israel's Political Map*
 Prof. Reuven Hazan, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
 - at the hotel

Israel's Political Map

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar. The group will also be arriving during an unprecedented interim Israeli government, as the Prime Minister was unable to form a coalition. Israeli voters who just went to the polls in March, will be heading back to the polls in September, making for a robust political conversation throughout the country.

9:15 AM Depart

9:30 AM-12:15 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem, Part II: The Historic and Holy Basin*
Guided survey of the Old City of Jerusalem
 City of David
 ■ Southern Wall Excavations
 ■ Western Wall
 Church of the Holy Sepulchre
 Via Dolorosa

Jerusalem

Throughout its 4,000-year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions — Judaism, Christianity and Islam — Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history. Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to give participants a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy

Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

The City of David

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has consumed an enormous amount of time and manpower from members of consecutive American Administrations as well as members of Congress. One of the most intractable issues in the conflict has been the question of the future of Jerusalem. Jerusalem's City of David, more than any other site, represents the complexity of this conflict.

The City of David is the site most archeologists agree to be the ancient city of Jerusalem that later became the capital of the united Israelite tribes under King David. This area is one of the most intensively excavated sides in the wider region. To Jewish Israelis, the site represents the beginning of their physical and emotional attachment to Jerusalem that has continued for over three thousand years.

At the same time, much of the site is located in the predominantly Arab neighborhood of Silwan. The residents of Silwan, and the Palestinian Authority leadership are opposed to the archeological efforts being carried out in the City of David. In several instances, homes in Silwan were purchased and then destroyed to open up more areas for excavations. Additionally, Palestinian leadership has denied in their official statements the existence of any Jewish connection to Jerusalem.

12:15 PM Depart

1:00-2:15 PM *Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide is the Gap?*
Lunch with Yitzhak Molcho, Former Special Envoy and Advisor,
The Office of the Prime Minister
-at the hotel, Olive Room

Israeli-Palestinian Negotiations: How Wide is the Gap?

Since Israel's founding, the Jewish state has sought to reach a just and lasting solution to the Israeli Palestinian conflict. The United States has been closely involved in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Yitzhak Molcho is a former Special Envoy and Special Advisor to Prime Minister Netanyahu. He also served as Chief Negotiator for the Middle East peace process, managing Israel's critical relations with the Palestinians, Egypt and Jordan since 1996. He will lay out the current state of peace negotiations, and opportunities and challenges for the future of the peace process.

2:15 PM Depart for the Office of the Prime Minister

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4:00 PM Depart

Yad Vashem

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state.

6:30 PM Return to hotel

7:30 PM Depart for dinner

Start-Up Nation

Dinner with

- Gil Beeri, Business Development Director, US OrCam Technologies
- Tal Cohen, Founding Partner, Drive and Next Gear Ventures
- Maria Levin, Director of Business Development and Marketing, Neteera Technologies

**Moderated by Eliran Elimelech, Director, Strategic Partnerships,
Start-Up Nation Central
- at Touro**

Start-Up Nation

Israel is a giant when it comes to innovation: a global leader in R&D spending and Venture Capital investment, and home to global R&D centers for the likes of Google, Apple and IBM. This evening's Start-Up Nation dinner will include a discussion with entrepreneurs representing Israeli innovation and ingenuity that has had enormous impact both in Israel and abroad.

9:45 PM

Overnight at the King David Hotel

Thursday, August 22, 2019

7:45 AM

Breakfast is served

8:00-9:00 AM

Regional Threats Assessment

Breakfast with General (Res.) Amos Yadlin

Director, The Institute for National Security Studies

-at the hotel, Olive room

Regional Threats Assessment

Maj.-Gen. (Ret.) Amos Yadlin is the Executive Director of Tel Aviv University's prestigious think-tank, the Institute for National Security Studies. He will provide an overview of national security matters, military and strategic affairs, military balance in the Middle East, terrorism and cyber warfare. Gen. Yadlin took over the running of the Institute in 2011, after more than 40 years of service in the Israel Defense Forces, nine of which he was a member of the IDF General Staff. He is the former head of the IDF Intelligence Branch. As the Israeli army's top intelligence officer, he provided the security establishment and the political echelon with ongoing IDF analyses of regional threats, with particular focus on the Iranian nuclear threat. As a former combat pilot, he commanded various fighter jet squadrons, several Air Force bases and served as the Israel Air Force Chief of Staff. He also commanded the IDF Military Colleges and the National Defense College.

9:15 AM

Depart

7:00-8:30 PM *The U.S.-Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*
Closing dinner
-in Tel Aviv

Closing Dinner

The closing dinner provides an opportunity for participants to process the scope of the week, from the religious center of the Judeo-Christian world in Jerusalem, to the bustling economic powerhouse of Tel Aviv; from the conflict plagued northern borders with Syria and Lebanon, to the environmental and geographical wonders of the Negev desert and the Dead Sea. We will process the range of topics explored, including the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, prospects for Arab-Israeli peace, the experience of minorities in Israel, as well as greater existential threats throughout the region. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their takeaways and ask any lingering questions that weren't covered during the week.

8:30 PM Depart for the airport

11:25 PM Depart Ben-Gurion Airport

Friday, August 23, 2019

4:30 AM Arrive at Newark

morning Depart for various airports

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